

H-1790-1 - NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT HANDBOOK

CRITICAL ELEMENTS OF THE HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

The following elements of the human environment are subject to requirements specified in statute, regulation, or executive order and must be considered in all EAs and EIS's. If the resource or value is not present or is not affected by the proposed action or alternatives, this may be documented in the EA or EIS as a negative declaration. Consult program-specific guidance to determine if a negative declaration is required for certain actions.

Element	Relevant Authority	BLM Manual
Air Quality	The Clean Air Act as amended (42 USC 7401 et seq.)	MS 7300
Areas of Critical Environmental Concern	Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 USC 1701 et seq.)	MS 1617
Cultural Resources	National Historic Reservation Act as amended (16 USC 470)	MS 8100
Farm Lands (prime or unique)	Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 (30 USC 1201 et seq.)	
Floodplains	E.O. 11988, as amended, Floodplain Management, 5/24/77	MS 7260
Native American Religious Concerns	American Indian Religious Freedom Act of 1978 (42 USC 1996)	MS 8100
Threatened or Endangered Species	Endangered Species Act of 1973 as amended (16 USC 1531)	MS 6840
Wastes, Hazardous or Solid	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 (42 USC 6901 et seq.) Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 as amended (42 USC 9615)	MS 9180 MS 9183
Water Quality Drinking/Ground	Safe Drinking Water Act as amended (42 USC 300f et seq.) Clean Water Act of 1977 (33 USC 1251 et seq.)	MS 7240 MS 9184
Wetlands/Riparian Zones	E.O. 11990, Protection of Wetlands, 5/24/77	MS 6740
Wild and Scenic Rivers	Wild and Scenic Rivers Act as amended (16 USC 1271)	MS 8014
Wilderness	Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 USC 1701 et seq.) Wilderness Act of 1964 (16 USC 1131 et seq.)	MS 8500